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MUNICP AB-43

Benzene N-oxides

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SEARCH

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Reference:

Report Date:

Sub-Source:

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SUBJECT

Proposed Project for Kuno WIRSCHI

RIR 302

SUBJECT

1. WIRSICH is now an internee in the SS CIE at Nürnberg-Langwasser; he held the rank of SS-Hauptsturmführer. His participation in the SS activity was on instructions from a Communist underground cell collecting intelligence in Germany for the Communist Party. WIRSICH's job was to penetrate and gather info on SS for the cell's leader, ~~one~~ ~~Walter~~ COHN and for COHN's assistant Dora THIELE DOHMANN. COHN lives now in France (4 rue Lazare Hoche, Palaisreau, S. et O., Paris) and has been interviewed by SSU/Paris; results of this interview are available at our Vetting Section. - Dora THIELE DOHMANN lives now in Lauf/Pegnitz, Bavaria; she fully substantiates WIRSICH's claim to have entered SS upon instructions of COHN.

2. WIRSICH claims to have entered the Communist underground cell because Communism was to him an expression of liberalism and anti-Nazism. WIRSICH claims to have been and to be still a firm believer in the "true Communist ideal, an absolute equality of man". He has, however, discovered that idealistic Communism and practical Communism were poles apart. He did not in the past and does not now believe that the German practical expression of Communism, i.e. the KPD, should be either Soviet-sponsored or Soviet-directed. - It is a credit to WIRSICH's character that he remains liberal in his political views though he is at the same time bitterly disappointed in the practical expression of his Communist ideal, and in the people who represent it now.

3. Our claim on WIRSICH:

(a) He has been vetted by us (XYZ-1 form of 2 Aug.45 and XYZ-1 Supplement of 7 Aug.45) and released (25 Aug.45) into our custody for use in penetration of the KPD.

(b) Before his vetting was completed he was lent to the Ministerial Collection Center, then at Kassel, for work on recovered SS documents (these documents were recovered with WIRSICH's assistance). - When (spring 1946) the Ministerial Coll. Center folded up in Kassel and its documents were transferred to Berlin, WIRSICH was interned as an automatic arrestee; this move was not opposed by us because at that time our Munich station was proposed to be closed.

(c) WIRSICH was arrested by CIC/Passau at his home in Vilshofen, placed in CIE/Plattling, then in CIE/Moosburg, and then in CIE/Nurnberg-Langwasser.

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4. Our Proposal for WIRSICH:

- (a) That CIB USFET be requested to re-release WIRSICH into the custody of SSU Munich for the purpose of using him to determine the KPD's relation to, direction by, and communication with the SIS.
- (b) That WIRSICH's release be into the personal custody of AB-43 whereby he would be actually taken out of the confinement by AB-43 personally to whom he is already grateful for staying out of jail all last autumn and this spring - all designated to strengthen his loyalty to us and to put it on more personal basis.
- (c) That the SSU Vetting section forwards the result of the interview with WIRSICH's former chief, Walter COHN, so that WIRSICH's demobilization process could be started immediately upon his release. From this end WIRSICH would be instructed to use the local KPD in clearing his good name which they caused him to be suspected. WIRSICH's chances in this respect are excellent: his close friend, Dr. Wolf FRIENDL, is the lawyer for the local KPD's secretary, Bruno GOLDHAMMER. And GOLDHAMMER himself has stated that he is "vitally interested in clearing WIRSICH in order to prove that we (=Communists) take care of our own people".
- (d) That a specific and detailed plan for WIRSICH's use will be submitted by this station soon upon WIRSICH's release from the CIE.

5. NOTE: Additional pertinent info on WIRSICH can be found in:

- (a) WIRSICH's vetting file.
- (b) Munich SOI PIR of 6 Aug. 45, entitled "Hestuf, Kuno M.L. WIRSICH." (Luk-501c-8136)
- (c) RIR MSC-111.
- (d) TUSA IC IR made before Aug 25 1945, but presently not on file with this station.
- (e) TUSA IPW Report No. 19 of 16 May 45.
- (f) TUSA IPW Report No. 20 of 17 May 45.
- (g) TUSA IPW Report No. 21 of XI 20 May 45.
- (h) TUSA IC Report No. 14 of 6 July 45.
- (i) Interview with Walter COHN made by CSM Paris in response to RIR MSC-111.
- (j) Testimony of Dora THIELE DOHANN available at SSU Munich, but as yet untranslated and undistributed.